

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release: October 1, 2018

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CODIFYING COUNCIL VACANCY PROCESS: Council President Shannon Hardin, chair of the Rules and Reference Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2546-2018 to codify the Council appointment process approved by voters in May 2018. The Charter defines a Council vacancy as if a member dies, resigns, is removed from office, ceases to hold any qualification for office, or the office is otherwise vacated during the term of office. The ordinance requires Council to hold, at a minimum, one public hearing prior to the appointment of an individual to a vacant seat on Council and extends the time period for filling a vacancy from 30 to 45 days.

KEEPING COLUMBUS WATERWAYS IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION: Council President Pro Tem Michael Stinziano, chair of the Public Utilities Committee is sponsoring an ordinance to enter into a construction contract for the O'Shaughnessy Dam - 2018 Spillway Erosion Rehabilitation Project. This project will provide for necessary maintenance and repairs to the O'Shaughnessy Dam spillway. The O'Shaughnessy Dam is part of a system of dams that provides water for the City of Columbus Dublin Road Water Plant, which serves more than 400,000 customers. Management of the City's reservoirs and dams is crucial for THE reliability of the water supply, long-term water supply planning to protect residents' long-term health, and economic development of the central Ohio area.

CLEAN COLUMBUS IS A SMART COLUMBUS: Councilmember Emmanuel Remy, chair of the Public Service and Transportation Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2407-2018, to enter into a contract modification with Clean Fuels Ohio for the purpose of distributing rebate funds in connection with the Smart Columbus Multi-Unit Dwelling Electric Vehicle Charging Rebate Program. Funds to pay for the administration of the MUD Electric Vehicle Charging Rebate Program were included in the GPD contract but the funds to pay for rebates that are to be distributed were not included in that contract.



SHANNON G. HARDIN, PRESIDENT | MICHAEL STINZIANO, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE ELIZABETH C. BROWN | MITCHELL J. BROWN | JAIZA PAGE | EMMANUEL V. REMY | PRISCILLA R. TYSON



PRESERVING 57 ACRES OF GREENSPACE: Councilmember Elizabeth Brown, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 2673-2018 to purchase 57 acres of property from the State of Ohio to be developed into parkland. Local residents advocated strongly for the city to acquire the property, known as the sheep farm, and to preserve it as green space. The \$5.3 million purchase is responsive to this advocacy and will represent a substantial investment in increased access to parkland and recreational opportunities for Columbus residents.

HELPING SENIORS AND THE DISABLED WITH HOME REPAIRS: Councilmember <u>Jaiza Page</u>, chair of the Economic Development Committee is sponsoring ordinance 2521-2018 to modify the Community Development Block Grant Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund contract with LifeCare Alliance (LifeCare) by extending the contract termination date from April 30-September 30, 2018. The additional time will allow LifeCare to continue the implementation of the Chores Program, which provides minor home repairs to seniors and disabled members of our community. These repairs must be for the safety or health of the senior or disabled person.

SUPPORTING HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS: Councilmember Priscilla Tyson, chair of the Health and Human Services Committee is sponsoring ordinance 1698-2018 to authorize the appropriation of \$707,374.40 for the 2018 the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. The HOPWA program provides for the implementation of long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of low-income persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. Eligible activities include providing housing information services; resource identification; acquisition, rehabilitation, conversion, lease, and repair of facilities to provide housing and services; new construction of housing units; project or tenant-based rental assistance; short-term rent, mortgage and utility payments; supportive services; technical assistance and administrative support.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK: Councilmember Mitchell J. Brown, chair of the Public Safety Committee is presenting resolution 0288X-2018 to declare October 7-13, 2018, as Fire Prevention Week in Columbus, Ohio. The 2018 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Look. Listen. Learn. Be aware - fire can happen anywhere." The campaign is designed to remind residents that we need to take personal steps to increase our safety from fire.

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